

Mr. HURD of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1250, to create a national artificial intelligence strategy.

For decades, American leadership in emerging technologies has created prosperity and security across the world, but this leadership is no longer guaranteed. As the Chinese Communist Party continues to use any means possible to become the next world power and world's leader in AI, it is all the more vital that the U.S. have our own strategic plan.

For almost a year, Representative ROBIN KELLY and I worked with policy experts, stakeholders, and the Bipartisan Policy Center to develop guidelines that will prepare America's workforce, counter our adversaries, promote research and development, and shape the ethics of AI based on America's values.

This resolution outlines specific steps and actions the Federal Government should take to ensure our global leadership in this emerging technology. If we don't take advantage of AI, Mandarin and the yuan—not English and the dollar—could dominate the global economy.

Vladimir Putin once said that whoever masters AI will master the world. That is why America—not Russia and not China—must be at the helm.

I came to Congress to make our Nation safer, and I am proud one of my last pieces of legislation before this body will do just that.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my good friend, ROBIN KELLY, for partnering with me on this critical effort and our staffs for making this happen. I hope all of our colleagues will join us in supporting this resolution.

RECOGNIZING THE CAREER OF MONICA RUSSO

(Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to recognize the remarkable career of Monica Russo.

After decades of service, Ms. Russo is retiring as executive vice president of 1199SEIU United Healthcare Workers East, the largest local union in the Nation, representing more than 400,000 healthcare workers in five States and more than 25,000 healthcare workers in Florida.

Under her leadership, 1199SEIU Florida has grown to represent more than 30,000 healthcare workers and retirees, becoming the largest union of healthcare workers in Florida and the Southern United States. She also serves as international vice president of the SEIU and as president of SEIU Florida State Council, where she politically unites more than 55,000 active and retired SEIU members, from bus drivers and janitors to healthcare workers.

Her emphasis on multicultural leadership development and grassroots, member-driven organization building has given a voice and power to healthcare workers, women, immigrants, and the working class.

Monica Russo's commitment to our Nation's working families is exemplary, and I am proud to call her my sister and dear and treasured friend. I will miss her guidance and wisdom, but our loss is her family's gain. I wish her a hearty congratulations on her retirement and am grateful for her invaluable work.

PROTECT THE GREAT LAKES FOR GENERATIONS TO COME

(Mr. STEIL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the 2020 Water Resources Development Act.

In southeast Wisconsin, the Great Lakes are vital to our environment, our economy, our health, and our way of life. Let me put it this way: If the Great Lakes region were a country, it would have the third largest economy in the world.

We must pass WRDA to protect the Great Lakes, invest in America's water infrastructure, and generate economic growth.

Earlier this year, I urged the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee to include the Great Lakes Coastal Resiliency Study and the Brandon Road project in WRDA. Both programs are included in today's bill. These programs detect vulnerabilities along the Great Lakes shoreline and prevent invasive species in the Great Lakes.

Mr. Speaker, I ask Congress to pass WRDA and support the Great Lakes for generations to come.

IN HONOR OF HUMAN RIGHTS DAY, FREE RAIIF BADAWI

(Mr. MCGOVERN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, December 10 is recognized around the world as Human Rights Day.

This year marks the 72nd anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. In that spirit, I am here today to call on the Government of Saudi Arabia to release blogger and human rights activist Raif Badawi.

In 2014, Raif Badawi was sentenced to 1,000 lashes and 10 years in prison for operating a website that encouraged debate on religious and political issues in his country.

Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman is claiming to be a reformer intent on modernizing Saudi Arabia. Raif Badawi's case plainly disproves that claim.

Raif Badawi will soon celebrate his 37th birthday in prison, the ninth

birthday he will have spent away from his wife and children.

Mr. Speaker, the Saudi Government must immediately and unconditionally release Raif Badawi and all other Saudi prisoners of conscience.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF MARC LEE

(Mrs. LESKO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Marc Lee, who was awarded the Silver Star and Purple Heart for his heroic actions on August 2, 2006, in Ramadi, Iraq. Today, the House will pass my bill, H.R. 6016, to rename a U.S. Post Office in his honor.

Marc's mother, Debbie Lee, from Surprise, Arizona, in my district, had the following to say on this momentous occasion:

"Marc Lee, the first Navy SEAL killed in Iraq, loved deeply and was deeply loved. He selflessly sacrificed his life to save his teammates. Naming this post office will keep his legacy alive and remind us to live lives worthy of their sacrifices."

It was my honor to introduce this legislation to remember the service and sacrifice of Marc Lee.

NATIONAL ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE STRATEGY

(Ms. KELLY of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to celebrate passage of H. Res. 1250, recognizing the principles that should guide the national artificial intelligence strategy of the United States.

In early 2018, Representative HURD, as chair of the Oversight and Government Reform Subcommittee on Information Technology, and myself, as the ranking member, held the first congressional hearing on artificial intelligence.

This resolution is born out of those hearings and the culmination of over a year's work with the Bipartisan Policy Center, bringing together experts from government, the private sector, and civil society to outline priorities to ensure the United States remains a leader in AI.

AI has the potential to fundamentally change our society. The U.S. needs a national strategy now to invest in our workforce, R&D, national security, and oversight agencies to ensure AI is a positive tool that will benefit all of society.

I am particularly pleased that this legislation was able to pass before my friend and close IT partner for the past 6 years, Representative HURD, retires from this body.

This Chamber has been made better by his spirit of bipartisanship and desire to protect our Nation and prepare